

Senate Bill 593

By: Senator Douglas of the 17th

**AS PASSED**

**AN ACT**

To provide for an advisory referendum election to be held in certain districts of Henry County for the purpose of ascertaining whether the voters of such districts desire the governing authority of Henry County to adopt by policy or ordinance measures to oppose or prevent the expansion of a certain airport in Henry County and whether the governing authority shall take whatever action is legally available to request or prevent the expansion of such airport in any other county; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

**SECTION 1.**

It is the purpose of this Act to provide for an advisory referendum within the North and South Hampton voting precincts of Henry County to determine if the voters of the North and South Hampton voting precincts prefer that the governing authority for Henry County take any lawful action available to prevent the further expansion of the Clayton County/Tara Airport located in Hampton, Georgia.

**SECTION 2.**

(a) Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the election superintendent of Henry County shall call and conduct an advisory election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting a question to the electors of the North and South Hampton voting precincts of said county to advise the governing authority of Henry County if the voters of the North and South Hampton Precincts prefer the governing authority to oppose the expansion of the Clayton County/Tara Airport to the extent permitted by law. The superintendent shall conduct that election on the date of the 2006 July primary election and shall issue the call and conduct that election as provided by general law. The superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week

for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of Henry County. The ballot shall have printed thereon the following:

"CHECK ONE

( ) Shall the Henry County governing authority take whatever action is lawfully available to oppose and prevent the expansion of the Clayton County/Tara Airport in either Clayton or Henry counties?

( ) Shall the Henry County governing authority not oppose the expansion of the Clayton County/Tara Airport or take any action which would limit the expansion of the airport?"

(b) It shall be the duty of the election superintendent of Henry County to hold and conduct the advisory election provided for in this section and to tabulate the results of such election. It shall be the further duty of said superintendent to certify the results of said election to the Secretary of State and to each member of the General Assembly whose senatorial or representative district lies wholly or partially within Henry County. The expense of such election shall be borne by Henry County.

(c) It is found, determined, and declared that the holding of the advisory referendum election provided for in this section is in all respects for the benefit of the people of Henry County and is for a public purpose and is an essential governmental function for which public funds may be expended.

**SECTION 3.**

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

**SECTION 4.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.